

Application/Control Number: 09/758,483
Art Unit: 2654

Docket No.: 2000-0034

REMARKS

Reconsideration and allowance in view of the foregoing amendments and the following remarks are respectfully requested.

By this amendment, claims 4-7 are pending, claims 1-3 having been canceled without prejudice or disclaimer, and claims 4 and 5 having been amended to correct improper antecedent bases and to improve form. Applicants submit that the scope of amended claims 4 and 5 remain the same.

In the Final Office Action of December 2, 2004, the Examiner rejected claim 1 under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as allegedly being anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 6,789,231 to Reynar et al. ("Reynar"); rejected claim 2 under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as allegedly being unpatentable over Reynar in view of Applicants' admitted prior art; and rejected claim 3 under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as allegedly being unpatentable over Reynar in view of U.S. Patent No. 5,930,746 to Ting.

Allowable Subject Matter:

Applicants wish to thank the Examiner for agreeing that claims 4-7 are allowed over the prior art of record. Applicants' proposed amendments to claims 4 and 5 are only for the purpose of correcting improper antecedent bases and improving form of the claims and do not alter the scope of the claims. Therefore, Applicants submit that amended claims 4-7 remain allowable.

Rejection of Claims 1-3:

Applicants canceled claims 1-3, thereby making the rejection moot. Applicants, therefore, respectfully request that the rejection of claims 1-3 be withdrawn.

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CONCLUSION

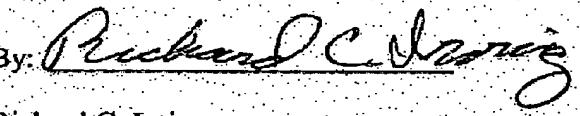
Having addressed all rejections, Applicants submit that the subject application is in condition for allowance. Therefore, Applicants respectfully request that the proposed Amendment be entered and a Notice of Allowance be issued.

Respectfully submitted,

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